The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers

L'Association canadienne des professeures de langues secondes

CASLT ACPLS

NEWS RELEASE

Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers Honours Outstanding Leader

CASLT President Miles Turnbull with Sharon Lapkin, Prix Robert Roy Award Winner 2006.

Saskatoon, October 27, 2006 – A prominent second language educator and researcher was recognized for her outstanding achievements during the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers' (CASLT) annual joint conference with the Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers (CAIT), and the Saskatchewan Association of Teachers of French (SATF), held in Saskatoon, October 26th to 28th.

Dr. Sharon Lapkin, a professor in the Modern Language Centre and Second Language Education program of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto, received the prestigious Robert Roy Award.

Dr. Lapkin's leadership, contributions, and achievements in second language education were highlighted when she was presented the award by Miles Turnbull, CASLT President.

Her many research projects range from large-scale program evaluations of core French and immersion programs, to qualitative studies of language learning in progress using detailed analysis of French immersion student dialogues. From 1995 to 2004 she was Co-Editor of the *Canadian Modern Language Review* journal and is currently Past President of the Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics. She is considered a leading authority on French as a Second Language education research around the world.

Doctor Lapkin spoke of the importance of collaboration between school boards, teachers and associations such as the CASLT, in order to promote the advancement of second language education, highlighting the need for these partners to "work together to achieve improved second language teaching and learning in our officially bilingual country".

Dr. Lapkin joins a distinguished list of past award recipients who have been honoured by the CASLT for their service in the field of education.

The Robert Roy Award is granted to an outstanding Canadian who has distinguished him or herself in the world of teaching, research or writing, and in advancing second language teaching and learning in Canada. The award was first introduced by CASLT in 1983. Past winners include Dr. Merrill Swain, Dr. Wally Lazaruk, and Dr. Pierre Calvé.

The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT), originally formed in 1970, increases awareness, appreciation and understanding of the importance of second language learning and teaching throughout Canada and promotes the advancement of professional excellence among language educators.

-30-

Contact:
Nathalie Landry
CASLT Communications Officer
613-727-3832 x219 (Ottawa office)
educ@caslt.org